

REMARKS

This amendment is made in response to the Office Action of May 2, 2006 in which claims 1-27 were rejected.

Regarding the 35 U.S.C. section 102(e) rejection of claims 1-11 and 14-27 as being anticipated by "Lunsford et al" (US 6,901,434), the present invention checks the availability of the second mobile terminal device for performing an automated synchronization and, if available, the first mobile terminal device performs the automated synchronization.

In contrast, the word "automatic" used in column 3 at line 42 of "Lunsford et al" pertains to the step 220 of Fig. 2 of "Lunsford et al" in which the second handheld computer accepts the request. The acceptance may be automatic. This is quite different from the automated synchronization that is performed by the first mobile terminal device of the present invention after checking availability of the second mobile terminal device and, if available, performing the automated synchronization.

Thus, the "Lunsford et al" reference does not provide the advantages of the present invention including the ability to allow the user to preconfigure the synchronization process according to specific profiles of a device or devices and then let the automated synchronization process take over without having to worry when changing devices. If the first device determines that the second device is available, it carries out the synchronization even if the user would have forgotten to do so. This creates obvious advantages and makes life easier for the user who may own multiple terminal devices. Such a feature is not shown or suggested by "Lunsford et al."

Withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. Section 102(e) rejection of claims 1-11 and 14-27 is requested.

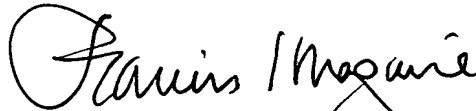
Regarding the 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) rejection of claim 12 based on "Lunsford et al" in view of "Hepper et al" (US 2003/0220966), claim 12 depends from claim 1 and is at least patentable for the reasons given above in connection with the novelty rejection. Withdrawal of the obviousness rejection of claim 12 is requested.

Regarding the obviousness rejection of claim 13 based on "Lunsford et al" in view of "Oh et al" (US 6,865,400), claim 13 depends from claims 1 and is at least patentable for the reasons given above in connection with the novelty rejection. Withdrawal of the obviousness rejection of claim 13 is requested.

A new claim has been added to add an independent means-plus-function claim similar to method claim 1. Support for the amendment may be found at page 3, lines 24-30 (see US 2004/0142711 at page 2, paragraph 0014).

The objections and rejections of the office action of May 2, 2006, having been obviated by amendment were shown to be inapplicable, withdrawal thereof is requested and passage of claims of 1-28 to issue is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Francis J. Maguire". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

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